THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir. A request was received from Government of Andhra Pradesh for providing funds for Krishna Drinking Water Supply Scheme.

(b) The letter was received on 22.12.2004.

(c) It has been proposed to include Krishna Drinking water Supply Scheme under the 'Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Infrastructure Development in Mega Cities' for Central assistance to the extent admissible under the guidelines of the scheme. An amount of Rs. 59.41 crore was released during 2004-05. Further, an amount of Rs. 14.65 crore has been released during 2005-06 so far. Further assistance shall be released once the amount released so far has been spent.

Reduction in stamp duty and Repeal Land Ceiling Act

†2081. SHRI AJAY MAROO:
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is considering any proposal in which the States Government would be asked to reduce the stamp duty to 5 per cent, to repeal the Urban Land Ceiling Act and to amend the Rent Control Act;

(b) the number of the States at present where stamp duty is more than 5 per cent, the details thereof;

(c) the States which have repealed the Land Ceiling Act; and

(d) the response of the other states in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) This Ministry has recently launched Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and (JNNURM) and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) whereby financial assistance would be provided to the States/UTs for infrastructural development, subject to implementation of identified reforms. Reduction of stamp duty to 5 per cent, abolition of Urban Land Ceiling Act and amendment in Rent Control Acts are, *inter-alia*, the identified reforms to be implemented during the Mission period, *viz.* seven years.

(b) The information is being collected.

(c) The Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Repeal Act, 1999 was initially applicable to the States of Haryana and Punjab and the then Union Territory of Delhi, Union Territories of Pondicherry and Chandigarh. The said Repeal

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Act has since been adopted by the States of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan & Orissa.

(d) Land being a State subject, the State Governments are free to either have their own Land Ceiling Act or continue with the Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1976 or adopt Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Repeal Act, 1999.

Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme

†2082. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have introduced the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount allocated by Government for this scheme during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) was launched in March, 1994, for small towns with a population upto 20,000 as per 1991 census with a funding pattern of 50:50 between the Centre and the States. Subsequently, 1244 water supply schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 1821.83 crore have been approved under the scheme and Central share amounting to Rs. 760.09 crore has been released up to 31.3.2005. The scheme of AUWSP has been subsumed in the new scheme of Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) which has been launched recently. Hence, no new project has been sanctioned under AUWSP during the current financial year.

(c) The amounts allocated during the last three years are as under :—

2002-03	Rs. 121.95 crore
2003-04	Rs. 140 crore
2004-05	Rs. 150 crore

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.